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Mr. SPEAKER :—" That is a good suggestion. I shall consider it. Does the hon. Member want that the answers should be roneoed and distributed to all members? "

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" Not to all, but to the hon. Member who has put the concerned question."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" All right. I shall consider that suggestion. The remaining questions and answers to-day will be printed in the Proceedings."

City bus transport.

* 1039 *Q.*—Sri S. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount of money invested in the Madras City Bus Transport Service ; and

(*b*) whether the Italian diesel oil engine buses have been transferred into petrol consuming vehicles?

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) A sum of Rs. 72,08,596 has been invested in the Government Bus Service, Madras City, up to 31st March 1952.

" (*b*) Twenty-four out of twenty-five Italian diesel engine buses have been converted into petrol engine buses. Only one bus has not been converted into petrol engine bus."

Panchayat for Madukkarai village, Coimbatore district.

* 1040 *Q.*—Sri M. PALANIYANDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the people of Madukkarai village, in Coimbatore district, regarding the constitution of a panchayat ; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The question of constituting a panchayat for the village is under the consideration of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in whom the power of constituting panchayats is vested."

Exemption to iced fish dealers from sales tax.

* 1041 *Q.*—Sri KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state whether the Government have received a memorandum, dated 2nd December 1952, from the Iced Fish Merchants' Association, Tanur, South Malabar, requesting them to exempt the iced fish dealers from sales tax and, if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

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THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHIRAMA RAO :—" Yes. The Government examined the memorandum in consultation with the Board of Revenue. They saw no grounds to comply with the request of the Association. The Secretary of the Association has been informed accordingly."

Prohibition stations in Malabar.

* 1042 Q.—SRI R. KRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Prohibition station-houses are vacant without Sub-Inspectors in Malabar and for how long the stations have been vacant; and

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to fill up the vacancies of Sub-Inspectors in Prohibition stations in Malabar?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISAMI GOUNDER :—" (*a*) Out of the 48 Prohibition station-houses in Malabar 12 were vacant for want of Sub-Inspectors, viz., one from November 1952, one from December 1952, 2 from January 1953, 2 from February 1953, 2 from April 1953 and 4 from May 1953.

" (*b*) Yes, Sir. Orders have already been issued to the officers concerned to fill up the vacancies of Sub-Inspectors in the Prohibition stations in Malabar."

Fair price shops in Madras City.

* 1043 Q.—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state how many fair price shops were removed in the City of Madras from January to April 1953 and the causes for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" One hundred and nineteen fair price shops were 'removed.' Out of these, 93 shops were relinquished by the fair price shop-keepers voluntarily, 14 shops were given up by the shop-keepers on detection of serious irregularities and 12 shops were kept under suspension for serious defects noticed in the running of the shops."

Refund of the security amount of the Railway Labour Press, Golden Rock.

* 1044 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received by the Government for the refund of the security amount forfeited in respect of the Railway Labour Press, Golden Rock, belonging to the Southern Railway Labour Union, Golden Rock; and

(*b*) the action taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, certain representations in this regard,